



RHUMB LINES

Straight Lines to Navigate By



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21st Century Sailor and Marine - Safety

"What you do every single day in your professional life is dangerous enough, and we don't want to lose Sailors or Marines in their off-duty hours. While the trends are going in the right direction, we must ensure all our personnel receive the training and support they need to work and live as safely as possible."

– Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) Juan M. Garcia III

Having the safest and most secure force in the Department of the Navy's history is the main objective of the safety area of the 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative. Sailors and Marines do a great job of managing risks on duty. In fact, fiscal year (FY) 2011 was the safest on record in terms of operational fatalities. While we are currently on track for an equally safe FY12, we must continue to apply operational risk management ([ORM](#)) skills to both our on-duty and off-duty activities.

Safety for the 21st Century Sailor and Marine

- Statistically, the most dangerous thing Sailors and Marines do every day is also one of the most common. Driving a personal [motor vehicle](#) carries inherent risk. There are a number of factors that make this even more dangerous: driving while fatigued, distracted, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- [Travel Risk Planning System](#) (TRiPS) is a proven tool to help Sailors manage the risks inherent in long-distance travel. Since August 2006, more than 380,000 TRiPS assessments have been completed with zero fatalities.
- Alcohol-related motor vehicle fatalities are down across the fleet, but it still bears repeating – if you drink, do not drive. Make a plan for a safe ride home before you take the first sip of alcohol and look out for your friends and help them make the right choices.
- Improve [motorcycle safety](#) by closing the training gap with the Military Sportbike Rider Course (MSRC), a proven tool for those who ride these high-performance machines. Experienced riders should mentor new riders and share information. Together we must work to ensure no one rides under the radar. This is all part of the tradition of shipmates looking out for shipmates.
- Commands must document all alcohol-related driving offenses, regardless of civilian conviction, court-martial finding or non-judicial punishment. This documentation must be reviewed by a promotion selection board or the All Fully Qualified Screening Process, as applicable, before the officer can be promoted.

During the Summer, "Live to Play, Play to Live"

- "[Live to Play, Play to Live](#)" summer safety campaign officially kicks off Memorial Day weekend. The summer season brings the potential for increased risks, so it is important that we use ORM at work and at play.
- With prior planning to manage the inherent dangers, even high-risk activities can be enjoyed safely.
- Over-indulging in alcohol makes any activity riskier. Alcohol does not mix with water activities, sports, hiking, or other summer activities. Even if you're just hosting a backyard party, it's important that everyone drink in moderation to ensure no one incurs additional risk for serious injury or fatality.

Key Messages

- Safety trends are going in the right direction. We want to make sure Sailors have all the tools they need to keep improving.
- Tools like TRiPS are available to help train Sailors – particularly those under the age of 25, who are statistically much more likely to be killed or injured behind the wheel.
- Live to Play, Play to Live.

Facts & Figures

- Sportbike fatalities: FY11, 12 Sailors killed, 9 of them had not met their MSRC training requirement. FY12, 3 Sailors killed, 1 had not completed MSRC training.
- Operational fatalities: FY11 – 7 Sailors killed, FY12 – 5 Sailors killed.
- Information about the 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative is available at www.21stcentury.navy.mil.